



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Park of  
American Samoa

Pago Pago, AS 96799

Michael Larson  
Public Information Officer  
684 633-7082 ext 20 phone  
684 633-7083 fax

---

## National Park of American Samoa News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 24, 2014

### National Park Hires Youth for Summer Projects

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa—The National Park of American Samoa has hired 16 local high school students to participate in its Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program for the next two months. This program provides youth between the ages of 15 and 18 with opportunities to work and learn together on Tutuila and in the Manu’a Islands. It is an important program to engage local youth in the work of the National Park Service.

“The Youth Conservation Corps has a long and successful history in the mainland and Hawaii and we are excited to bring this program to American Samoa” said Superintendent Jim Bacon.

“Through the YCC we will be able to actively engage Samoan youth in national park efforts, providing employment and learning opportunities, and ultimately preparing the next generation of Samoan national park stewards.”

The participants will complete a variety of projects with park staff such as trail construction and maintenance, general maintenance work, invasive species control, collecting water quality samples, and working with visitors and villages.

This summer’s participants are Live Tau and Fernandez Lago (Samoana); Young Mamea and Charlize Tapusoa (Nu’uuli Voc-Tech); Aioise Talamoni (Leone); Penitisa Leatutufu and Filipino Paselio (Fa’asao Marist); Quendolynn Eseroma (Kanana Fou); and Olyvoyah Sefo, Jessen Sasiu, Darius Mutini, Aj Maiava, Lotufaamanatu Hicks, and Malaefono Ioane (Manu’a).

The Youth Conservation Corps program allows youth to work in their national park while giving them an understanding of its natural and cultural resources. It also introduces them to

careers related to the protection of these resources. The program is challenging, educational, and fun, and offers participants opportunities to expand their horizons while building skills that will benefit them for a lifetime.

\* \* \*

*About the National Park of American Samoa. The national park was established in 1988 to preserve and protect coral reefs, tropical rainforests, fruit bats, and the Samoan culture, and to provide for the enjoyment of these to this and future generations. National park lands and waters in Tutuila, Ta'u, and Ofu islands are leased from villages and the American Samoa Government through a long-term agreement with the National Park Service.*

*For more information about the National Park of American Samoa, call 633-7082 ext. 22, email [npsa\\_info@nps.gov](mailto:npsa_info@nps.gov), or go to [www.nps.gov/npsa](http://www.nps.gov/npsa). Also, visit the national park's Facebook and Twitter pages.*